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FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

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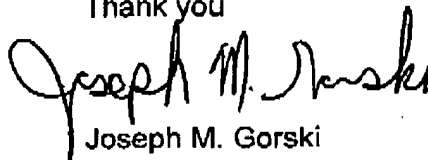
Date: February 17, 2004

Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/732,729

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED, INCLUDING COVER SHEET 3

Message: Please find provided herewith amended claim 26 and comments pertaining thereto, which I would like to discuss during our interview on February 19 at 11:00.

Thank you


Joseph M. Gorski

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26. A packaging container comprising:

a container body having an inverted cone shape, said container body including a side wall, a first end [defined by a tapered end portion having a rounded distal end such that said container body cannot be supported in an upright position by said rounded distal end when said rounded distal end is placed on a support surface, and], an open end opposite said first end and an axis passing through said first end and said open end, wherein at said first end a distance between an inner surface of said side wall and said axis decreases in a non-linear fashion in a direction of said axis away from said open end so as to define a rounded bottom, with said distance being measured orthogonally to said axis;

at least one protrusion formed on an outer surface of said side wall of said container body;
and

a frustum-shaped exterior shell having a small-diameter opening at one end and a large-diameter opening at an opposite end such that

(i) said frustum-shaped exterior shell is to be removably fitted onto said container body by passing said tapered end portion of said container body through said large-diameter opening and then through said small-diameter opening until said at least one protrusion removably supports said frustum-shaped exterior shell on said container body, and

(ii) said frustum-shaped exterior shell is to support said container body on the support surface in an upright position by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface.

Claim 26 has been amended to more clearly recite what was intended by "rounded distal end", while also deleting therefrom the language that was found to constitute new matter.

The following reasons support why any combination of the references relied upon would not result in the invention as recited in claim 26.

(1) **ZEMAN** does not have the rounded bottom as claimed, and it would not have been obvious to provide **ZEMAN** with a rounded bottom because flower pots are generally not desired to have rounded bottoms.

(2) **ZIMMER** does not have the rounded bottom as claimed, and providing **ZIMMER** with a protrusion would not have been obvious because it would serve no purpose, since the bottom of the cup 12 is to rest on a surface to provide support. Similarly, rounded bottom for cup 12 would not have been obvious since this would make cup 12 unstable.